

Supplement No. 119

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A Selig Western Picture, Full of Life, Showing the
Western Cowboy's Daring Ride Through
the Rockies

Don't Miss It

The Cattle Rustlers



Code:--QUIB

Length, 960 Feet

Released September 10, 1908

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CHICAGO
U. S. A.

THE CATTLE RUSTLERS.

(A Picture of a True Story taken from
Real Life)

"The Cattle Rustlers" is the third of a series of great western pictures turned out by Selig this season. The scenes were selected from one of the big valleys of the Rockies, and are unsurpassed in beauty and wild grandeur.

The story is woven about an old cattle raiser, John Ralston, whose annoyance at the depredations on his stock by a band of rustlers leads him to offer a reward for their capture.

The opening scene of the picture occurs in front of a "thirst parlor" in a small western town, where Ralston is distributing handbills to a crowd of cowpunchers and loungers, offering the reward above mentioned.

Cherokee, a half-breed and leader of the very band of rustlers wanted, happens to be present, and after reading one of the bills he mounts his thoroughbred and rides rapidly away.

We are then taken to the camp of his followers, where to the great amusement of the daredevil band he reads the offer of reward made by Ralston. So reckless are these men, that instead of paying heed to the warning they determine to make another raid the next morning.

Cherokee leaves his companions, instructing them to procure as much rest as possible for the lively work cut for them, and is next seen riding up to a little log cabin, the home of his Indian sweetheart, Wahmita. It is here he keeps his branding irons with which he changes the brands on the cattle he steals. Telling Wahmita that he has work to do and cannot tarry long, he bids her an affectionate adieu and rides away to join his men.

In the meantime Ralston's offer of reward has aroused the cattlemen and cowboys of the entire valley, and preparations are at once begun to hunt down the much-hated cattle rustlers.

Cherokee, rousing his followers the next morning, starts out on his nefarious undertaking. They soon come upon a herd of fine cattle browsing near the edge of the pines, and surrounding them they soon have them rounded up in an old abandoned corral in a secluded spot in the forest. There, confident of their safety from discovery, they begin to brand the calves found in the herd. While they are busily engaged in this work, a lone ranch woman on her way through the forest to the nearest settlement rides up to the rear of the old corral, unseen by the rustlers, and taking in at a glance the unlawful work going on she gallops rapidly away to spread the alarm.

At the first habitation she comes to she sends the girl who responds to her call to arouse the cowboys of the Ralston ranch. Like a winged messenger the girl springs lightly to the back of her broncho and is off like the wind. Dashing into the cowboys' camp she spreads the news, and with a yell of exultation fifty whirlwind riders spring to their horses, and following the girl are soon lost to view on the crest of a distant rise.

Again we see the rustlers, who are still at their branding, when they are suddenly arrested in their work by the distant pounding of a hundred pairs of hoofs. Knowing full well the meaning of that sound, without further delay they mount their saddled horses and plunge at once into the forest, in the hope of eluding their relentless pursuers. But they are too late—the leader of the cowboys sees their retreating forms, and with fierce energy the chase begins.

Now follows a thrilling ride for life. Feeling that their only hope is to abandon their jaded horses and take to the depths of the forest on foot, the wily Cherokee orders his men to dismount and try to demoralize their pursuers by firing a volley into their midst as they come around a bend in the road. The plan is carried out, but the cowboys are determined, and dismounting, take up the chase on foot, which, after a short fight, ends in

the capture of all the rustlers but Cherokee, who, by strategy, escapes.

The victorious cowboys then ride to the former camp of the rustlers and there capture the Mexican cook, who is frightened into revealing the possible hiding place of his leader. The hunt is then resumed and ends at the home of Wahnita, where Cherokee has taken shelter. Here he is finally captured, but not without a desperate fight, in which he is badly wounded.

The prisoners are all taken to the Ralston ranch and an impromptu court formed, by which all the rustlers are sentenced to pay the penalty usually meted out to cattle thieves. But through the pleadings of Wahnita, and because of his wounds, Cherokee is given a day's respite and is locked up in a log house on the ranch under guard, with the Mexican cook as his only companion. During the night his wounds, which are many, prove fatal, and he dies in the arms of his comrade.

When the cowboys come next morning to get him they find that a merciful Providence has intervened, and the leader of the rustlers has already paid the penalty. Left alone with the body of her outlaw lover, poor Wahnita, the faithful Indian sweetheart, bewails her loss.

This picture will be the hit of the season, as all of Selig's western pictures speak for themselves. None better than this one reproduction for a motion picture. See the daring ride of the cowboys through mountains. A scene well worth any man's money and time. Don't miss it. It will be a great card for your next show. Selig's films always draw packed houses. Once with us, you will never leave us. That's our system. We deliver the goods and that is why we get the business. Order now from your film exchange. Released September 10th, 1908. Did you get our last feature film? "The Power of Labor." Well, it's a good one, take the tip. Are you on our mailing list for weekly synopsis? If not, write today. Keep in touch with Selig. A winner always—Selig's record.